



STATELY PROCESSION -- A Niagara C-130 waits to make its turn to join a procession of seven Hercules which took off one behind the other to fly home in formation Monday morning.



FATHER AND DAUGHTER -- A returning Frontiersman is greeted by his daughter in the Westover Passenger Terminal.



PATRIOTS FAN -- Maj. Richard Lanoue of the 914th AW shows off his New England Patriots colors to his family who live in this area.

-- photos by
MSgt. W.C. Pope



GREETINGS FROM THE BOSS -- Col. Wade Farris, 914th AW commander, and CMSgt. James Woodruff, 914th AW command chief master sergeant, greeted every returning Niagara member.



WE DID IT! -- A thumbs up shows how Niagara Falls members feel about their first minutes back on American soil.



YOU'RE GOING HOME -- A Niagara marshall gives the go sign to one of the seven C-130s that left here in formation.

Frontiersmen are back from the front

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Six C-130s and about 160 members of the 914th AW, the Frontiersmen, of Niagara Falls, returned to American soil from almost four months in the Iraqi Freedom AOR when they landed here Sunday. The aircrews, maintainers, aerial porters and others had conducted missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries in the AOR.

Some family members were among those who greeted them at the Westover Passenger Terminal. Following the Westover Welcome, the Western New Yorkers were treated to a chicken wing and pizza picnic.

On Monday morning the six C-130s from the AOR and a seventh from Niagara Falls, flown by their wing commander, Col. Wade Farris, took off and flew in formation to Niagara Falls.

Center offers bowling classes

The Westover Bowling Center is offering instructional bowling for children ages 6 to 17 on Saturdays at 11 a.m.

For more information, call Ext. 3990.

Pat Stats

Served since Feb. 2, 2003

8,135 passengers -- 2,694 aircraft
30,727,372 pounds of cargo
Info from MSgt. Jim Garrity, 42APS

17,119 hot meals served
Box lunches: 5,063
Info from MSgt. David Beauregard, 439SVS

Fuel since Feb.1
17,891,055 gallons of JP-8
Info from Jim Maloney, Fuels

PATRIOT express

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Security guidelines prohibit using deploying reservist's last names)

Contact us:
DSN:589-2020 - (413) 557-2020
www.afrc.af.mil/439aw
439patriot.editor@westover.af.mil

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Junior Achievement honors our volunteers

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Twelve Westover volunteers were recently honored by the Junior Achievement program for their work with area school children.

The Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts program presented a Military Role Model Partnership Award plaque to CMSgt. Ronald Tyson, who brought Junior Achievement to Westover. During the past year, Westover volunteers have conducted Junior Achievement educational events at 13 area high school classrooms.

Junior Achievement is a national program which brings volunteers to school classrooms to teach students free

enterprise life skills. Topics include resume writing, interview skills and balancing a checking account.

The volunteers visit schools for one hour sessions, one day a week for five weeks. They were: Capt. David Walsh, CMSgt. Ronald Tyson, SMSgt. Pamela White, MSgt. Lisa Spence-Elder, MSgt. Mitchell Skura, MSgt. Thomas Demers, TSgt. Ken Graham, TSgt. Kimberly Babin, TSgt. Alan Stevens and Claire Leblanc.

Volunteers are needed for a summer session of Junior Achievement classes to be held for five weeks beginning in July. Volunteers must be available on Tuesdays or Wednesdays for classes from 12:3- to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call Marilyn Haynes at 535-5600.

Happy birthday, dear C-5

Yesterday was the 35th anniversary of the first C-5A flight. A C-5A (tail number 66-8303) made its maiden flight on June 30, 1968.

The Lockheed aircraft departed Dobbins AFB, Ga. at 7:47 a.m. The flight lasted 1 hour, 34 minutes. Gross weight at takeoff was 497,000 pounds. The cruising altitude was 11,000 feet with a top speed of 140 knots. The aircraft commander was Lockheed chief engineering test pilot, Leo J. Sullivan.

Military Airlift Command took possession of the first C-5A (tail number 67-0170) on Dec. 17, 1969. General Jack J. Catton, MAC commander flew the first aircraft from Georgia to Altus AFB, Okla., on the 66th anniversary of the first flight at Kitty Hawk.

The Patriot Wing's 337th Airlift Squadron flies the oldest C-5A in the inventory, tail number 66-8304, which last weekend was at an airshow at Quonset Point, R.I.

Travel vouchers need supervisor's sign-off

Westover financial officer Daniel McCarthy said Monday that beginning next week, supervisors will be required to sign all travel vouchers as part of the mandatory split disbursement for military personnel. Split disbursement requires the traveler to separately identify travel card charges on a travel voucher and directly disburse those amounts to Bank of America.

As of July 7, supervisors must review and sign the travel voucher before the employee submits it for payment. Supervisors must also date all travel settlement vouchers for military and civilian personnel. The policy does not require the supervisor to be an accountable approving official, McCarthy said.

The voucher is submitted to the finance office for settlement after it is reviewed and signed by the claimant and supervisor. Voluntary use of split disbursement is highly encouraged for civilian employees, McCarthy said. For more information, call Ext. 3460.

Express-ions

